



# Maryland Health Care Commission

## Assisted Living Study

WORKGROUP MEETING #5

MAY 22, 2023



# Maryland Health Care Commission

## Assisted Living Study

### Study Recommendations

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# Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Review of Meeting 4
3. Review and Discuss Workgroup Recommendations for Final Report
4. Open Discussion
5. Next Steps

# Workgroup Requirements



- ▶ Analyze the inspection data from the Office of Health Care Quality to determine, on a systemic level, where quality of care may be improved
- ▶ Examine the entry into and exit from the market for assisted living programs, including any noticeable trends related to inspection data or regulatory requirements
- ▶ Consider the feasibility of developing a reporting system for assisted living programs that protects patient confidentiality and makes data related to catastrophic health emergencies declared by the Governor and quality of care publicly available
- ▶ Review the current assisted living program licensure regulations to determine whether these programs should be regulated differently than programs with ten or more beds
- ▶ Determine whether:
  - ▶ Assisted living programs receive sufficient reimbursement to cover the cost of care for the services provided, including for residents with Alzheimer’s and other dementia–related conditions, under initiatives offered through the Maryland Medicaid Administration or other State or local initiatives; and
  - ▶ The Home– and Community–Based Options Waiver, or any other waiver program that may be used for assisted living programs, can be revised to improve the quality of care and increase provider participation
- ▶ Review staffing resources that could be better utilized and made available for these programs, including measures to encourage the recruitment and retention of staff and meet standards for sufficient staffing.



# Draft Recommendations

1. Standardize the Definition of “Small Assisted Living Program”
2. Conduct a Feasibility Study Focused on Data Infrastructure to Collect Assisted Living Program Data for Quality Assessment and Equitable Access Across Jurisdictions for Public Reporting Purposes
3. Develop a Strategy to Ensure Availability of Deficiency Reports for Public Reporting Purposes
4. Conduct a Thorough Reassessment of Reimbursement policies in the Maryland Medicaid Home and Community Based Waivers Program
5. Collaborate with the Assisted Living Industry to Develop a Public Education Campaign about Assisted Living as a Long-Term Care Option
6. Develop and Implement a Phone Application or Website Portal for Assisted Living Program Data Sharing
7. Enhance Assisted Living Program Owner and Staff Training Programs and Resources
8. Develop Programs and Resources to Engage and Retain Assisted Living Program Staff
9. Identify Funding to Support Enhancement of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program for Assisted Living
10. Require Assisted Living Programs to Maintain a Valid email address and Internet Access



# Next Steps

- ▶ Incorporate workgroup feedback into recommendations
- ▶ Full draft of report to workgroup by: June 21
- ▶ Workgroup feedback on report due by: July 12
- ▶ Present draft report to Commissioners: September 21
- ▶ Final report due to legislature and workgroup: October 1